<u>Patent</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

plicant(s): Hans Bruesselbach,

et al.

Serial No.: 10/759,511

Filed: January 15, 2004

For: "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR

COMBINING LASER LIGHT"

Re: Information Disclosure

Statement

Group: 2874

) Examiner: not yet assigned

) Our Ref: B-4759NP 621649-7

) Date: October 6, 2004

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria VA, 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the Applicants' duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the first Office Action on the merits. Copies of the foreign patent documents and the non-patent publications listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) are enclosed herewith for the Examiner's convenience. Copies of the U.S. patent documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) are not enclosed, pursuant to Deputy Commissioner Stephen G. Kunin's Pre OG Notice dated July 11, 2003.

The documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) include those cited in the International Search Report and Written Opinion for a related PCT application no. PCT/US2004/001121 (14 pages). A copy of the International Search Report and Written Opinion is enclosed herewith.

World Intellectual Property Organization Document No. 2004/001919 Al is not in English. A concise English-language explanation of the relevance of World Intellectual Property Organization Document No. 2004/001919 Al can be found in the enclosed English-language Information Disclosure Statement USSN 10/759,511 October 6, 2004 Page 2

abstract.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The Applicants believe that this IDS is being submitted before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. Therefore, no official fees should be due; and this IDS should be considered on the merits. If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, please contact the undersigned to authorize a payment of \$180.00 (or any other required amount), which is the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), if the Examiner believes that such a fee is due in order for this IDS to be considered on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

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The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 $C.F.R. \S 1.56(c)$) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450",

on October 6, 2004 by Shana Morda.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Popa

Attorney for Applicant

Reg. No. 43,010

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Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (1 page)

Copy of Search Report and Written Opinion for

PCT/US2004/001121 (14 pages)

Copy of Non-U.S. Patent documents listed on Form PTO-

1449 (modified).

Information Disclosure Statement USSN 10/759,511 October 6, 2004

Lage

Form #TO-1449 (Modified)

B-4759NP 621649-7

APPLICANTS
PUBLICATIONS
STATEMENT

FILING DATE
January 15, 2004

ATTY DOCKET NO.
U.S. SERIAL NO.
10/759,511

APPLICANTS
GROUP
2874

| | | | | U.S. | PATENT | DOCUMENTS |
|---------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|-------|---------------|--|
| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | ISSUE DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB- CLASS | FILING DATE or 102(e) DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
| | 5,396,506 | 3/1995 | Ball | 372 | 6 | |
| | 5,936,980 | 8/1999 | Espindola et al. | 372 | 6 | |

| | · | | FOREI | GN PATEN | r DOCUMENTS |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------|-------|----------|-----------------------|
| DOCUMENT NUMBER | PUBLICATION DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO |
| 2 154 364 A | 9/1985 | GB | | | |
| 2004/001919 A1 | 12/2003 | WO | | | abstract |

Kapany, N.S., et al., "Coherent Interactions Between Optical Waveguides and Lasers," Journal of the Optical Society of America, Vol. 58, No. 9, pp. 1176-1183 (September 1968). Kozolov, V.A., et al., "All-Fiber Coherent Beam Combining of Fiber Lasers," Optics Letters, Vol. 24, No. 24, pp. 1814-1816 (December 15, 1999). Lyndin, N.M., et al., "Laser System Composed of Several Active Elements Connected by Single-Mode Couplers," Quantum Electronics, Vol. 24, No. 12, pp. 1058-1061 (1994). Morel, J., et al., "Coherent Coupling of an Array of Nd³+-Doped Single-Mode Fiber Lasers by Use of an Intracavity Phase Grating," Optics Letters, Vol. 18, No. 18, pp. 1520-1522 (September 15, 1993). Sabourdy, D., et al., "Efficient Coherent Combining of Widely Tunable Fiber Lasers," Optics Express, Vol. 11, No. 2, pp. 87-97 (November 22, 2002). Sabourdy, D., et al., "Power Scaling of Fibre Lasers with All-Fibre Interferometric Cavity," Electronics Letters, Vol. 38, No. 14, pp. 692-693 (July 4, 2002). Shirakawa, A., et al., "Coherent Addition of Fiber Lasers by Use of A Fiber Coupler," Optics Express, Vol. 10, No. 21, pp. 1167-1172 (October 21, 2002).

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.